

Minutes of the Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission

July 20, 2010

7:30PM Conference Rooms 2/3
Government Center
12000 Government Center Pkwy.
Fairfax, Virginia 22035
Chairman Fee, presiding

Attendance:

Commissioners: Belkowitz, Bounacos,
Boyd, Douskalis, Fee, Roark, Rosier

Absent:

Commissioners: Bahhur, Hargraves,
Hine, Kirk, Mrowka, Nguyen

Staff:

Michael S. Liberman, Director
Cable and Consumer Services
Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief Consumer
Affairs
Rick E. Ellrod, Director
Communications Policy & Regulation
Division

The meeting was called to order at 7:34PM by Chairman Fee.

Minutes

The minutes of the May 18, 2010 meeting were approved.

Report of the Chairman

Chairman Fee attended the May 25, 2010 Board of Supervisor's (BOS) meeting with Commissioner Rosier for their review of the report on *Rates Charged by Water Systems Serving Fairfax County Residents*.

Chairman Fee advised the Commissioners that the Virginia Supreme Court ruled in favor of the county regarding jurisdictional towing.

Chairman Fee mentioned the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management is leading a county-wide Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning (PDRP) initiative and anyone who is interested should attend.

Report of the Director

Director Liberman mentioned that the report on *Rates Charged by Water Systems Serving Fairfax County Residents* was well received by the Board of Supervisors.

Director Liberman stated that staff is reviewing the text of the towing ordinance draft to present to the Trespass Towing Advisory Board for their review. The Commission will review the ordinance prior to the BOS.

Director Liberman told the commission that FY2012 Budget meetings with senior management have begun and the community dialog sessions will occur in the fall.

Commission Matters

Commissioner Douskalis announced that he is resigning from the commission and this will be his last meeting.

Commissioner Rosier had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Boyd had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Roark had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Belkowitz had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Bounacos had no matters to bring before the commission.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Rick Ellrod, Director, Communications Policy & Regulation Division (CPRD), provided an overview of the role of CPRD in cable franchise management and recent communications issues. Topics that were discussed: CPRD's regulatory role in construction and inspection, issues with cable service, coordination with Consumer Affairs Branch, policy and regulatory advice, special projects, the FCC's net neutrality proceedings, and Cox franchise renewal.

A discussion ensued on the renewal of the Cox franchise agreement, past performance and compliance, privacy issues, aerial vs. buried cable lines, network management and bandwidth, false advertising of Internet speeds, and disclosures.

Commissioners discussed the August meeting and future topics. The August 17, 2010 meeting is cancelled and the Federal Consumer Protection Bureau will be the topic for the September meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 PM